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wore out and as youngsters grew up there was always the need for more. At first, each family had to make its own cloth, and the weaving industry was on an individual basis. The men would shear wool from the sheep, and then the women would wash it, cord it and spin it into cloth by mixing in some cotton yarns if they were fortunate enough to have cotton on hand. Hand cording was very slow, and whenever possible the wool was taken to Provo to be corded. Later, Moses Cluff built a cording machine in the north-west part of town, constructing a mile-long mill race, hand-dug, to power the machine.

Home-spun cloth served the people for many years, and what it may have lacked in attractiveness it more than made up for in durability and warmth. There were generally two grades of material, linsey and jean.

The first professional weaver in the community was William Aird, who made linsey cloth. As he and others produced more material, home weaving dwindled and generally was confined to carpets and rugs. Some who continued in the weaving business included Roger Horrocks and his wife Sarah Ann, Mary Taylor, Hannah and George Harbour and Sarah Clegg.

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Firemen who have received their 25 year pins from the State Firemen's Association include Owen F. Buell, Earl H. Smith, Mont Giles, A. D. Buys, Forrest Dayton and Frank Hardy. At the 1961 state convention held in St. George, Mr. Hardy was presented a 50-year pin for service to the Utah association. Earl H. Smith is also serving his third five-year term as a trustee of the state group.

During recent years the department has moved into a new fire station and has added new trucks and many pieces of modern fire fighting equipment. Membership is kept at 20, all of whom are on call 24 hours a day and work strictly on a volunteer basis to protect property in the county against fires. Because of their work the valley's fire insurance rates have been very favorable.

Some firemen who have served in recent years include Verl Wright, William Turnbow, Neil Montgomery, Douglas Smith, Lynn McKnight, Lynn Bonner, Rolland Carlile, Bill Jaspersen, Ray Wright, Hylton Burch, Don Smith, Jay Giles, Harvey Bronson, Glen Jensen, Ralph Stevens, Marvis Clyde, Neil Bethers, Art Mair, Paul Probst, LaRen Provost, Ray Farrell, Richard Jones, and Clyde Broadbent.

Secretaries of the department have included Forrest Dayton, Owen Buell, Douglas Smith and Clyde Montgomery.

A ladies auxiliary was organized in 1949 with Mary Hardy as president. She was also State Auxiliary president. Other presidents have been Thelma Wootton, La Von Burch and Dove McAfee who also have been state presidents. Lizzie Buell served for 10 years and Lois Wright, both have been auxiliary secretaries. May Smith was State Auxiliary secretary for two years.

The first fire alarm was the bell in the stake house tower, but in recent years a siren has been constructed with connections to enable the telephone operator to sound the alarm.

In addition to his work with the fire department, Mayor McMullin completed successful road and sidewalk projects, improved the city water system and strengthened the Heber Light and Power Plant. While many interests were pressing the city to sell the "white elephant power plant," Mayor McMullin put the issue to the people in a special election and won a majority vote of the people to continue city operation of the facility.

When Mayor McMullin was re-elected in 1926 he had as councilmen Albert Dickson, Henry Moulton, Sumner Hatch and Frederick Crook. Sylvan Rasband and Elmer Strong continued as recorder and treasurer, respectively.

Mayor McMullin directed one of the valley's large celebrations in August of 1927 when the city played host to the Sixth Annual State Encampment of Indian War Veterans. The encampment and concurrent homecoming celebration continued for four days and included two parades, band concerts, dances by Ute Indians, talent shows, ball games, rodeos, carnival treats and community dances. Large barbecue pits dug



## CHAPTER NINE

### *...And the Barren Place Is a Fruitful Field*

Those who scoffed at the Mormon pioneers for their desire to create a vigorous economy in the tops of the Rocky Mountains underestimated the faith and determination of this industrious people.

Many said that the barren wastes would never produce crops and that the arid soil would grow nothing but heartache and disappointment.

What these doubting onlookers failed to realize was that the Mormon people really believed in the promise of God that the desert should blossom as a rose, and believed in it strongly enough that they were willing to work together to make it happen.

The faith they possessed is typified in these words of Charles W. Penrose, written in England, as he envisioned the land of Zion:

"In thy mountain retreat, God will strengthen thy feet;  
Without fear of thy foes thou shalt tread;  
And their silver and gold, as the prophets have told,  
Shall be brought to adorn thy fair head."

How true these words really were can be seen in nearly every community that was settled by the hardy Mormon pioneers. It certainly has been true in the growth and development of Heber City.

Of course, Heber's commerce and industry didn't develop overnight, but as it grew, little by little, it began to have an impact over a wide area. The silver and gold of those who once scoffed literally came back to benefit the people. Purebred cattle and horses were sold throughout the country, dairy and farm products found wide acceptance and rich mineral deposits attracted nation-wide mining interests to the area.

The principle of "first things first" motivated the development of Heber City's commerce. Those who came to the valley in the Spring of 1859 had as their first concern the winning of food from the earth to sustain themselves during the long winter months. Thus, agriculture became the first "business" in the valley and it has continued to dominate the commercial scene through the years. The grain raised that summer of 1859 was frost-bitten before it matured, but it was usable and the people were grateful for it. Many ate it cooked whole, while others ground it in small hand mills. John Crook, commenting on the crop that year, said "we ate mush, mush and more mush."

Clothing was also a vital need of the people in the new lands of Provo Valley. They brought some clothing with them to the valley, but as it



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